

## The Battalion

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### Editorial Policy

The Battalion is published daily except Saturday, Sunday, holidays, exam periods and when school is not in session during fall and spring semesters. Publication is Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters. The newsroom phone number is 845-3316.

The Battalion is a non-profit, self supporting newspaper operated as a community service to Texas A&M University and Bryan-College Station.

The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publications, a unit of the Department of Journalism.

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editorial board or the author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Texas A&M student body, administrators, faculty or the A&M Board of Regents.

Comments, questions or complaints about any of the editorial content of the newspaper should be directed to either associate editor at 845-3313.

### Subscriptions

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### Advertising

Advertising information can be obtained from the advertising department at 845-2696 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by visiting the office in room 015 Reed McDonald building.

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### BATTIPS

845-3315

The Battalion encourages its readers to contribute story ideas and suggestions by calling BATTIPS. The Battalion's phone line designed to improve communication between the newspaper and its readers.

## Continued education outside U.S.

# Flexible program sends Aggies abroad

By Robin Goodpaster  
The Battalion

Texas A&M students who wish to experience cultural change as well as academic challenges should participate in the University's study abroad program, says the director of the Study Abroad Office.

Mona Rizk-Finne says study abroad can be a life-changing experience that will help students tremendously in their future endeavors.

A&M students have a wide variety of locations to choose from to study abroad, Rizk-Finne says.

Programs include trips to Italy, Denmark, Japan, Taiwan, Germany, Russia and

the Far East. Students may also study abroad for a fall or spring semester, a summer, or even an entire year abroad.

David Leese, a junior mechanical engineering major, was the first participant in A&M's Germany Language/Internship program. Leese spent nine months in Germany — the first three were spent learning the language at school, and the other six he worked for an aerospace firm.

Leese says he wanted to see another culture and how other people perceived the United States. Leese says he highly recommends the trip.

Many students are interested in studying abroad, but are worried about the cost of travel. Financial aid is available at the Financial Aid Office and can be used toward

the trip. "The cost for most of the programs abroad is about the same as spending a summer in College Station taking courses," she says.

About 450 students participate in programs each year, Rizk-Finne says. Thousands of students are interested in the program and come into the office for more information.

The mission of the Study Abroad Office at A&M is to provide students in all fields of study at all levels a wide range of educational experiences abroad, Rizk-Finne says.

Rizk-Finne says students view the world a little differently when they return.

"Students begin to examine their own values and become somewhat more tolerant

of and more accepting of other points of view," Rizk-Finne says.

"Study abroad experiences can also be an asset in the job market," Rizk-Finne says.

As many businesses become more nationally oriented, foreign study experiences can provide professional experiences as well as sensitivity to other cultures.

Students interested in programs offered by other universities and organizations abroad can look through the Study Abroad Library, which has files and reference material on various fellowships and scholarships as well as study abroad programs sponsored by other universities.

For more information about study abroad programs, contact the Study Abroad Office at 845-0544.

## Health Tips

Editor's Note: The A.P. Beutel Health Center periodically provides The Battalion helpful hints for better health.

Planning on going to the football game Saturday? Will you be standing with the 12th Man? With the noon heat, try these helpful hints to help keep healthy and safe.

\* When dressing for the big game, keep in mind that wearing loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored, and cotton or cotton-blend clothes allows air to circulate and body perspiration to evaporate.

\* Drinking water instead of sugar-sweetened beverages will help replenish body fluids. You may lose 2 to 3 quarts of water a day. Drinking eight ounces of cool water every 15 minutes is suggested. Use caution with caffeine-containing drinks (coffee, tea, cola) and alcohol-containing beverages because they may act as a diuretic that removes water from your body, increasing

urine production. You can't always rely on thirst to tell you when you need water.

\* Sunglasses with UV protection, sun screens (i.e. SPF 15), and caps can all help protect you from the sun's damaging rays. Remember to uncover (take your hat off) during yells, though.

\* If you consume alcohol game day, keep in mind that the alcohol will increase the level of body dehydration, the heat will increase blood circulation, and you may become drunk more quickly. This can be particularly dangerous to your health and safety. Even if you are not drinking, be aware of other football fans who may be drinking and driving.

\* Another precaution is to check the temperature and the relative humidity. When the relative humidity gets to be around 75 percent, you may not

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## Subcommittee proposes plan to end main/West Campus rush to class

By John Lose  
The Battalion

Texas A&M students will have extra time between classes next spring, as part of a plan forwarded by the Faculty Senate to alleviate the problem of having to leave class early to make to the next class on time.

The 20 minute break, approved by University President William Mobley during the summer, will be implemented on a trial basis during the spring and fall semesters. Classes will remain the same length, but will begin on a slightly different schedule.

"Basically, the problem is that students are arriving to class late, and also having to leave early," said Dr. Sallie Sheppard, associate provost of Undergraduate Studies and the Honors Program.

A subcommittee of the Faculty Senate was established specifically to define and address the problem of transit time between classes. The subcommittee's report also

stated that having classes scheduled across campus will increase in the future due to expansion of the West Campus, and the increasing number of non-agriculture classes being scheduled in west campus buildings.

"The final solution that they recommended was to put twenty minutes between classes," Sheppard said.

"The starting times will be a little weird, but it'll be nice to not have to rush all the time."

-Tracie Ibanez  
freshman history major

Sheppard said. "It will be viewed as a pilot study to see what kind of problems arise, and so forth."

Sheppard said there will be no reduction in the number of classes due to the new time schedule, which sets class times at 8, 9:10, 10:20 a.m., and so forth on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Classes on Tuesday and Wednesday, which already allow 15 minutes' transit time, will add 10 minutes to that time, to give students a uniform amount of transit time all week long.

"It will give the students more time to make it from class to class, so I think it will be to the advantage of the students, who may have to leave classes early to make it to the next one," Sheppard said.

"I think it's a good idea," said Tracie Ibanez, a freshman history major. "It will make it easier to grab something to eat and not be all stressed about being late to class. The starting times will be a little weird, but it'll be nice to have to rush all the time. The new timetable will be viewed at the end of the trial period because unexpected problems can result."

"My guess is that if it does work, then we'll see a modification of the plan, because this is the most practical of the plans that were presented by the subcommittee," Sheppard said.

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